

R E M A R K S

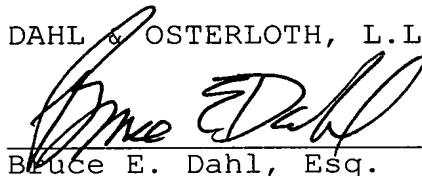
Claims 3, 12, and 16 are amended. Claims 1, 2, 13-15, and 24 are canceled.

In the office action, paper number 22, dated March 3, 2005, the examiner indicated that allowed claims 3-12 and 26-23 (sic, 16-23) would be passed to issue provided that they are placed in independent form.

In response, claim 3 is amended to place it in independent form and to include all the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). Claim 12 is amended to change its dependency from claim 1 to claim 3. Claim 16 is amended to place it in independent form and to include the limitations of the base claim (claim 13) and intervening claim 14. Therefore, claims 3-12 and 16-23 should be in condition for immediate allowance. If any questions or issues remain to be resolved, the examiner is requested to contact the applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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